

HOUSE RESOLUTION 173

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Cordell Winfree of Lebanon.

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Cordell Winfree; and

WHEREAS, Cordell Winfree was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the youngest of six children, Mr. Winfree was born on April 11, 1924, in Smith County; and

WHEREAS, a decorated veteran, Cordell Winfree received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star for his service in the United States Army from 1944 to 1946; and

WHEREAS, upon completing his undergraduate studies at the Tennessee Polytech Institute, Mr. Winfree began working in the Cocke County School System; he later served in the Smith County School System and the DeKalb County School District, and he received his master's degree in administration and supervision from Middle Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, Cordell Winfree accepted a position at Castle Heights Military Academy in 1957, where he taught in the Junior School and supervised Morgan Hall while residing there with his family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Winfree served as principal of Byars Dowdy Elementary School from 1968 until 1974, when he was appointed director of the Lebanon Special School District, a position he held until his retirement in 1989; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Cordell Winfree was recognized for his achievements in education in 2010, when he was honored as one half of the namesake of the new Winfree Bryant Middle School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Winfree was a charter member of Westland United Methodist Church in Lebanon, which he served faithfully for many years as a Sunday School teacher; and

WHEREAS, Cordell Winfree was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Winfree was the proud father of Nan Winfree, Dan Winfree, and Lou Ann Knight; he was the devoted grandfather of Brandon Romer, Austin Winfree, Britney Knight, Taylor Knight, and Travis Knight; and the treasured great-grandfather of Addison Romer and Daxton Romer; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Lemuel Greal and Laura Belle Thomas Winfree; his loving wife of sixty years, Oleta Hall Winfree; his brothers, Elmer Winfree, Bill Winfree, and Joe Winfree; his sisters, Sadie Wills and Estelle Moore; and several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Cordell Winfree leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Cordell Winfree, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Winfree.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.